

MITSUI USA SCHOLARSHIPS IN TENNESSEE PROGRAM

2015 Scholarship Application

(Please read the instructions carefully, complete these forms in blue or black ink and return them with additional required materials by May 31, 2015 as directed. Incomplete and/or late applications will be excluded from consideration.)

Student Name

Last First Middle

Date of Birth _____ Social Security Number _____

Mailing Address

Address _____
City _____ County _____ Zip _____
Home/Cell Phone (with area code) _____ Work Phone (with area code) _____
Email Address: _____

Permanent Address (if different from mailing address above)

Address _____
City _____ County _____ Zip _____
Home Phone (with area code) _____ Work Phone (with area code) _____

School Data

High School Name _____ Graduation Date _____
City _____ Zip _____

4-year college/university you plan to attend _____ Location _____
Proposed field of study _____

Financial Support and Funding Sources

Have you applied for other scholarships? yes no Have you received other scholarships? yes no
If yes, please list sources and dollar amounts _____

Will you qualify for the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship? yes no

Activities/Work Experience (attach additional sheet if necessary)

List community, volunteer, school-related and employment experiences which demonstrate achievements beyond academic performance over the last three years.

Activity	Duration (mm/yy)	Special Awards/Honors/Description
_____	_____ to _____	_____
_____	_____ to _____	_____
_____	_____ to _____	_____
_____	_____ to _____	_____
_____	_____ to _____	_____
_____	_____ to _____	_____

Briefly describe the achievement that you consider the most personally rewarding or satisfying: _____

Please complete the Application, Essay and Financial Assistance Data form before mailing. All required application materials, including the Official School Record, Official High School Transcript and two Applicant Appraisals must be received to be eligible for consideration by the JAST Scholarship Review Committee.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: MAY 31, 2015 (application forms and materials postmarked later than this date will not be accepted). Please submit to: **Mitsui USA Scholarships in Tennessee Program**
c/o Japan-America Society of Tennessee, Inc.
P.O. Box 330003, Nashville, TN 37203

Questions regarding the scholarship program? Contact Ginger Byrn at gbyrn@jastn.org or call us at 615-663-6060

MITSUI USA SCHOLARSHIPS IN TENNESSEE PROGRAM STUDENT ESSAY

Student Name

Last

First

Middle

Please share in 350 words or less your long-term goals and aspirations as they relate to your educational and career objectives in the context of an increasingly interconnected global community.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DATA

Student Name _____ Social Security Number _____

Consideration will be given to financial need. Describe personal or family circumstances that make it necessary for you to seek aid for your education. If you and your family have unusual circumstances, such as illnesses not covered by insurance, unemployment, etc. that affect income, please include those as well.

INCOME, EXPENSES, AND ASSET DATA

Please attach a copy of your Student Aid Report that shows Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as a result of filing FAFSA and complete the information below according to your parents' most recent IRS Tax Return(s).

Parent Information	
1. Adjusted gross income	\$
2. Total U. S. income tax paid	\$
3. Student income from working	\$
4. Untaxed income and benefits (AFDC, ADC, SSI, etc.), if any	\$
5. Medical/dental expenses not covered by insurance	\$
6. Cash, savings, stocks, bonds CD's, etc.	\$
7. Net value of real estate holdings not used as primary residence value less balance of mortgage)	\$
8. Total number of family members	
9. Current marital status:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Separated	
<input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed	
10. How many family members, living in your house, will be in college this next academic year?	

Additional Information

Parents' Occupation:

Father _____ Mother _____

CERTIFICATION

I/we certify that the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my/our knowledge. I/we understand that the financial information will be considered confidential, for review by the Scholarship Review Committee of The Japan-America Society of Tennessee and any advisors it deems necessary. I/we realize that this proof may include a copy of a U. S. tax return. I/we realize that failure to comply with a request for further information may prevent the applicant from receiving an award under the Program. I/we will supply any additional information Scholarship Review Committee may request. To comply with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, permission is hereby given to school officials to release the secondary school record and other requested information for consideration with this scholarship application.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

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Eligibility Requirements and Application Instructions

About Mitsui USA Scholarships in Tennessee Program

The *Mitsui USA Scholarships in Tennessee Program* was established by Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. through its office in Nashville and The Mitsui USA Foundation in New York to contribute significantly and visibly to two worthy goals: (1) providing educational opportunities to young State-college-bound students while (2) serving to promote cross-cultural understanding between Japan and Tennessee. The Program is administered by the Japan-America Society of Tennessee, Inc. (JAST), a non-profit, 501(c)3 corporation, funded by individual and corporate membership fees.

Eligibility

For the 2015-2016 academic year, four scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 each will be funded and awarded to graduating high school seniors from Tennessee. Ideally, two of these awards will be granted to seniors from the 40-county area of Middle Tennessee; one award will be granted to a senior from East Tennessee, and one will be granted to a candidate from West Tennessee.

The Mitsui USA Scholarships in Tennessee Program is open to graduating high school seniors who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents; who have been residents of Tennessee for the past five years; and who have an un-weighted, cumulative grade point average of B (3.0) or better. Successful applicants will also have completed all college core and university track courses and demonstrate 1) an ability to communicate clearly in written English; 2) a personal and/or career interest in multi-cultural and International Affairs, and/or an aptitude for foreign language study; additionally 3) involvement in community volunteer activities or leadership roles will be considered favorably.

Applicants seeking an undergraduate degree on a full-time basis from an accredited degree-granting four-year public college or university within the State of Tennessee's Board of Regents or University of Tennessee systems are eligible to apply. All scholarship awards must be used the following semester. Awards are non-renewable and may not be deferred.

Scholarship applicants will be evaluated by a volunteer Scholarship Review Committee comprised of JAST members (excluding any representative from Mitsui USA). Committee members will rate applications

according to a prescribed scale which balances the merit of grades, demonstrated international awareness (as expressed in a written essay and notable high school coursework, such as foreign language study), community involvement, extra-curricular activities, work experience, test scores and financial need.

In addition to submitting a **completed application form, financial assistance data, an official school record form, an official high school transcript and 2 faculty recommendations**, scholarship applicants must **submit a brief essay** describing their academic goals and achievements and how their future career interests reflect international awareness and interests.

The Scholarship Review Committee meets in June to review and rate applications. All applicants will be notified of the committee's decisions by June 30.

Application Deadlines

Applications are accepted April 1st through May 31st with scholarships awarded by June 30th. The deadline for submitting applications and supporting material will be May 31, 2015 (*postmarked by May 31, 2015*). Late or incomplete applications cannot be considered.

Applicants are responsible for submitting completed applications by the May 31st deadline as follows:

- Completed application form, including financial assistance questionnaire and student essay
- Official school record form and high school transcript, signed and sealed by authorized school official
- Two** appraisal forms, completed and sealed by appropriate faculty member or supervisor

Payment Process

Award recipients will be sent an acceptance form that must be signed and returned to JAST by July 15th. Scholarship payments are then sent directly to the college or university in two payments, fall and spring semester, or in accordance with the payment deadlines established by the institution's official academic calendar, after a student officially accepts the award, and enrollment has been verified for the fall and spring semesters. Scholarship awards not used by recipients for the fall semester following high school graduation will be forfeited, not deferred.

Revisions

The Mitsui USA Foundation and the Japan-America Society of Tennessee reserve the right to review the conditions and procedures of this scholarship and to make changes at any time, including termination of the program.

MITSUI USA SCHOLARSHIPS IN TENNESSEE PROGRAM

Questions and Answers

Who is eligible? *This scholarship is limited to residents of Tennessee who are also U.S. citizens or permanent residents and have resided in the state for the previous five years.*

Are part-time students eligible? *Scholarships will be awarded only to students pursuing full-time studies.*

Are scholarships open to graduate students? *Scholarship awards are limited to incoming freshmen only.*

Must a student attend a college or university in Tennessee? *Yes. Scholarships are awarded to eligible students who plan to attend public four-year colleges or universities within the State of Tennessee's college and university systems. This means that recipients must attend an institution within the University of Tennessee or Tennessee Board of Regents systems.*

How are recipients selected? *Scholarship recipients are selected by a JAST Scholarship Review Committee on the basis of academic merit, international awareness, extra-curricular activities, community involvement, leadership and financial need.*

What is the amount of the award? *One scholarship of \$5,000 is paid in two equal installments (\$2,500 per semester) directly to the institution on behalf of the award recipient.*

Can students send a photocopy of their academic transcripts? *No. Only a sealed, official copy of a student's most recent academic transcript can be accepted and it must contain at least one of the following: cumulative grade point average, class rank, and/or SAT scores.*

What if household income is relatively high? *There is no maximum income or financial cut-off. All students who meet eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply.*

When are decisions made? *Decisions are made in June, and applicants are notified by mail by June 30th.*

Can students reapply each year? *Scholarship awards are limited to incoming freshmen only who plan to attend an eligible college or university full-time and enroll for the academic year immediately following high school graduation.*

APPLICATION FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AS DIRECTED AND POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MAY 31, 2015.